

Dear Sir:

I am very upset about this new rule proposed called a broadcast flag. It implies I am a thief and must be chained. It puts a burden of proof upon me through electronics to prove I am not engaged in an illegal activity. I say the opposite is required by our constitutional rights. Innocent till proven guilty. This new proposal will end up making equipment illegal, that might never be used in any copyright infringement. It then removes my capability to find and use or build such equipment for my own legal use. Plus, this is another step in the fight against 'fair use' we americans have had. As an example of this, look at a sony mini disc player. It has a microphone so I can record myself singing, talking. This sound is recorded digitally on mini disks. However these mini disks CANNOT be uploaded digitally to my computer. Why? Cause Sony says I can't be trusted. They won't allow that. I'm not breaking the law here. Yet they are treating me like a criminal. They!

are removing my abiltiy to preserve what I have created. They are stealing my time, forcing me to play the music out again and record it digitally some other way. This is an example of what this broadcast flag means. Another way to steal my rights to freedom, creativity and fair use of what I own or create.

thank you
larry johnson